Mountain Weather Forecast

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 24 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Friday 25 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 23 Dec 2020 at 15:55 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Generally High. Main uncertainties are western extent of snow showers on Thursday morning and chance of snow on Monday.

Headline for Thursday 24 Dec 2020: Bitterly cold with strong winds, gradually easing. Snow flurries, but turning drier in the west.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 24 Dec 2020

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Light snow	Light snow	Light snow	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability							
80%	80%	40%	40%	30%	10%	10%	<05%

Forecast for Thursday 24 Dec 2020

Weather: Persistent snow mostly clears western ranges shortly before dawn, but further snow flurries continue across the Cairngorms, frequent in the morning, more isolated in the afternoon. Generally cloudy day. Dry with cloud thinning in the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Nil in the early hours. By day; 10-20% across the Cairngorms, cloud often persistent above 700m. 60% further west, bases nearer 800-900m, the odd cloud break likely. All ranges 80% by evening with cloud mostly dispersing.

Visibility: Good or very good at low levels. Generally poor at height with whiteout conditions for much of the day.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Thursday 24 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	27/35 NW	32/44 NW	33/46 N	30/42 N	29/40 N	27/38 N	25/34 NW	21/27 NW	19/24 W
900	19/25 NW	26/35 NW	27/37 N	22/30 N	20/28 NW	17/25 NW	15/21 NW	12/16 W	11/16 W
600	11/16 W	17/26 NW	17/27 N	13/21 N	11/19 NW	9/16 NW	8/14 W	7/12 W	6/11 W
300	5/14 W	11/25 N	9/22 N	8/20 NW	7/17 NW	6/15 NW	3/10 W	4/10 SW	5/13 SW
Glen	5/17 W	6/23 N	5/21 NW	6/20 NW	7/21 NW	6/20 NW	5/17 NW	4/12 W	4/13 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-7/-17	-7/-18	-8/-19	-8/-19	-8/-18	-8/-18	-8/-18	-8/-17	-8/-16
900	-4/-11	-4/-13	-5/-14	-5/-14	-5/-13	-5/-12	-5/-12	-5/-11	-5/-10
600	-2/-7	-2/-9	-3/-10	-3/-9	-3/-8	-2/-7	-3/-7	-3/-7	-3/-6
300	-1/-3	-0/-6	-1/-6	-1/-5	-0/-4	-1/-4	-1/-4	-1/-4	-1/-4
Glen	-0/-3	-0/-5	-1/-5	-1/-5	0/-4	1/-4	0/-4	-0/-3	-0/-4
Freezing Level*	200m	200m	100m	100m	200m	100m	100m	100m	100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Gusts of around 50-55 mph likely at times across the higher summits of the Cairngorms. Bitterly cold in the wind. An icy coating on many surfaces making footpaths very slippy.

Forecast for Friday 25 Dec 2020

Weather: Cloudy through the early hours and much of the day, a few spots of light rain and summit snow early morning. Some brighter spells possible late morning. More persistent rain spreads east from mid-afternoon, then mostly dry with clear spells by late evening, a few snow showers in the west.

Maximum wind: West-southwest 35 gusting 45-50 mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10% or less for much of the day, cloud extensive above 600-700m. A slight improvement around late morning to early afternoon with cloud bases lifting to near the summits for a few hours. 70% late evening as cloud mostly clears.

Visibility: Generally good below clouds, a few km in afternoon rain. Mostly poor at height with whiteout conditions.

Temperature: **Glens:** Zero Celsius rising to plus 6 Celsius in the afternoon.
At 800m: Minus 3 Celsius rising to zero Celsius in the morning, plus 2 Celsius early evening.
Freezing level: 200m, rising to 1000m around dawn, then above the summits for a few hours from dusk. Lowering to 800m late evening.

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